

### AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-5 (**Currently canceled**)

Claim 6 (**Currently amended**) A method of producing a recombinant replication-deficient adenoviral vector comprising a transgene coding for a stress related factor, said method comprising:

[The method of claim 5]

co-transfecting a plasmid comprising a transgene coding for a stress related factor, a promoter and a polylinker flanked by adenoviral sequences of the left end of the human adenovirus 5 genome from which the E1A/E1B genes have been deleted into a mammalian cell transformed with E1A/E1B genes, with a plasmid which contains the entire human adenoviral 5 genome, and an additional insert making the plasmid too large to be encapsulated, whereby rescue recombination takes place between the transgene-inserted plasmid and the plasmid having the entire adenoviral genome so as to create a recombinant genome containing the transgene without the E1A/E1B genes, said recombinant genome being sufficiently small to be encapsulated, wherein said plasmid into which the transgene is cloned is plasmid pAC1 or plasmid ACCMVPLPA;

identifying one or more cells comprising recombinant vectors in cell culture;

propagating the one or more resulting recombinant vectors in mammalian cells transformed with the E1A/E1B genes; and

purifying the one or more propagated recombinant vectors.

Claims 7-40 (**Currently canceled**)